

# Morgan Klaus Scheuerman

PhD Student  
Department of Information Science  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Boulder, CO 80309

morgan.klaus@colorado.edu  
www.morgan-klaus.com

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## Research Interests

Social computing, algorithmic identity, technical infrastructures, intersectionality, marginalized communities, social impact of emerging technologies, feminist HCI, ethical design.

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## Education

2022 (EST)

**PhD**  
Information Science  
University of Colorado (CU Boulder)

**Master of Science**

Human-Centered Computing  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

2018

- Master's Thesis: *Exploring Technology Use for Identity Mediation by Individuals with Diverse Gender Identities*  
Advisors: Stacy M Branham, Foad Hamidi  
Committee: Amy Hurst, Casey Fiesler
- Independent Study: *Learning the Language: The Importance of Studying Written Directions in Designing Navigational Technologies for the Blind*  
Advisor: Stacy Branham

**Bachelor of Arts**

2016

Communication  
Minor in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Goucher College  
– Intensive Course Abroad: Arts Administration in Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Associate of Arts**

2011

Photography  
Harford Community College

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## Professional Experience

### Industry Experience

SUMMER 2020

Google (Ethical AI) — Menlo Park, CA

Research Intern

SUMMER 2019

**Facebook (Community Integrity)** — Menlo Park, CA  
UX Research Intern

SUMMER 2018

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)** — Baltimore, MD (Student Life)  
User Experience Consultant  
Project: Relationship Violence and Prevention website redesign

2016 – 2018

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)** — Baltimore, MD (Office of Residential Life)  
Assistant Community Director (Graduate Assistant)

SUMMER 2017

**Northrop Grumman** — Fairfax, VA  
User Experience Intern

JAN – AUG 2016

**Mindgrub Technologies** — Baltimore, MD  
Digital Marketing Associate and Creative Copywriter

## Research Experience

2019 –

**University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder)**  
GRA (Graduate Research Assistant)  
Grant: Humanizing Algorithms

2016 – 2017

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)**  
Research Assistant  
Project: Exploring Ultra-Mobile Navigation Aids for Blind People  
Research Team: Amy Hurst, Stacy Branham, Ali Abdolrahmani, William Easley

## Teaching Experience

2018—PRESENT

**University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder)**  
Teaching Assistant  
Course: *INFO 1101: Computation in Society*  
Instructor: William Aspray, Roshanna Sylvester

JAN – MARCH 2016

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)**  
Volunteer Teaching Assistant  
Course: *Special Topics: 3D Printing and Entrepreneurship*  
Instructor: Erin Buehler

## Awards

SEPT 2019

**Best Paper Award**  
CSCW 2019 (Top 1%)

FEB 2019

**Interdisciplinary Ethics Tech Competition**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner (\$10,000 scholarship from the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative)  
Hosted Colorado Law School and Silicon Flatirons

NOV 2018

**Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion**  
CSCW 2018 (Top 5 of 61 Selected Diversity Papers)

APRIL 2018      **Best Paper Award**  
CHI 2018 (Top 1%)

## **Funding Awards**

SEPT 2018      **UGGS Travel Grant**  
United Government of Graduate Students (UGGS) at University of Colorado Boulder  
Amount: \$300

AUG 2019      **Identity Lab Research Grant**  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Amount: \$1000

NOV 2018 & AUG 2019      **CMCI Travel Grant**  
CMCI (College of Media, Communication and Information) at University of Colorado Boulder  
Amount: \$500

AUG 2018      **Information Science PhD Fellowship**  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Amount: \$1750

MARCH 2018      **Graduate Student Association Travel & Presenter Grant**  
Graduate Student Association at University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
Amount: \$500

MARCH 2017      **Google Travel and Conference Grant**  
Google  
Amount: \$500 + conference registration

MARCH 2017      **Graduate Student Association Travel & Presenter Grant**  
Graduate Student Association at University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
Amount: \$750

## **Guest Lectures**

MARCH 2020      **Gender Discourse in Facial Analysis Technologies.** Guest lecture for *Crowd Sourced City: Social Media, Technology and Planning Processes*. Instructor: Catherine D'Ignazio. MIT.

FEB 2020      **How Computers See Gender.** Guest lecture for *Problems in Information Science: Digital Identity*. Instructor: Jed Brubaker. University of Colorado Boulder.

FEB 2020      **Safety on Social Media for Transgender Individuals.** Guest lecture for *Information Privacy, Surveillance and Exposure*. Instructors: Barb McQuade, Florian Schaub. University of Michigan.

OCT 2019      **Designing Surveys.** Guest lecture for *Understanding the World Through Data*. Instructor: Jed Brubaker. University of Colorado Boulder.

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## ***Publications***

## Refereed, Archival Publications

### Journals

- [J2] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Jacob M. Paul, Jed R. Brubaker. **How Computers See Gender: An Evaluation of Gender Classification in Commercial Facial Analysis and Image Labeling Services.** *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 3, CSCW, Article 144 (November 2019), 33 pages.  
(Acceptance rate: 31%. **Best Paper Award: Top 1%.**)
- [J1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham, and Foad Hamidi. **Safe Spaces and Safe Places: Unpacking Technology-Mediated Experiences of Safety and Harm with Transgender People.** 2018. PACMHCI. Volume 2, CSCW Issue. *In Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol. 2, CSCW, Article 155 (November 2018). ACM, New York, NY. 28 pages.  
(Acceptance rate: 25%. **Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion: Top 5 Diversity Papers at CSCW 2018.**)

### Conference Proceedings

- [C2] Foad Hamidi, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham.  
*In Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '17).*  
**Gender Recognition or Gender Reductionism? The Social Implications of Automatic Gender Recognition System.** Montréal, Canada. April 21-26, 2018.  
(Acceptance rate: 23%. **Best Paper Award: Top 1%.**)
- [C1] Stacy M Branham, Ali Abdolrahmani, William Easley, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Erick Ronquillo, and Amy Hurst. **Is Someone There? Do they have a Gun?" How Visual Information about Others Can Improve Personal Safety Management for Blind Individuals.** *In Proceedings of the 19th International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS '17).* Baltimore, Maryland. October 30 – November 1, 2017.  
(Acceptance rate: 26%.)

## Lightly Reviewed

### Posters

- [P1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, William Easley, Ali Abdolrahmani, Amy Hurst, Stacy M Branham.  
**Learning the Language: The Importance of Studying Written Directions in Designing Navigational Technologies for the Blind.** *ACM CHI Conference Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '17).* Denver, Colorado. May 6-11, 2017  
(Acceptance rate: 38.7%.)

### Workshop Position Papers

- [WP4] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman.**  
**Contesting Efficacy: Tensions Between Risk and System Efficacy in Facial Analysis Software.** CSCW Workshop on *Contestability In Algorithmic Decision Making.* November 2019.
- [WP3] Anthony T. Pinter, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Jed R. Brubaker.

**Designing and Carrying Out Conscientious Research With Marginalized Groups.** CSCW Workshop on *Social Technologies for Digital Wellbeing Among Marginalized Communities*. November 2019.

**Morgan Klaus Scheuerman** and Jed Brubaker.

[WP2]

**Gender is not a Boolean: Towards Designing Algorithms to Understand Complex Human Identities.** CSCW Workshop on *The Changing Contours of "Participation" in Data-driven, Algorithmic Ecosystems: Challenges, Tactics, and an Agenda*. November 2018.

[WP1]

**Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Foad Hamidi, Stacy M Branham.

**(Ab)user-Centered Design? Considering the Involvement of Abusers in the Design Process.** CHI Workshop on *Understanding "Bad Actors" Online*. April 2018.

## Encyclopedia Entries

[E1]

**Morgan Klaus Scheuerman** and Jed Brubaker.

**Gender is not a Boolean: Binary Representations of Gender in Computer Vision.** *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Trans Studies*. Forthcoming.

## Media Publications

[M1]

**Can Gender Be Computed?**

Foad Hamidi, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham.

*Scientific American* via *The Conversation US*. May 15, 2018.

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/can-gender-be-computed/>

## Press Coverage

[P12]

**Colorado Edition: Algorithmic Identity.**

*KUNC* radio show. February 12, 2020.

<https://www.kunc.org/post/colorado-edition-algorithmic-identity>

[P11]

**Facial Recognition Makes Changing Your Name Pointless.**

*OneZero* article by Lux Alptraum. January 30, 2020.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/21/tech/ai-gender-recognition-problem/>

[P10]

**AI software defines people as male or female. That's a problem.**

*CNN* article by Rachel Metz. November 21, 2019.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/21/tech/ai-gender-recognition-problem/>

[P9]

**Talk nerdy to me: Gender at a glance.**

*Science Node* article by Laura Reed. November 8, 2019.

<https://sciencenode.org/feature/Talk%20nerdy%2011-08-19.php>

[P8]

**Facial recognition can't classify transgender or non-binary people, study finds.**

*Mic* article by Vanessa Taylor. October 30, 2019.

<https://www.mic.com/p/facial-recognition-misclassifies-transgender-non-binary-people-study-finds-19281490>

[P7]

**New Research Reveals Facial Recognition Software Misclassifies Transgender, Non-Binary People.**

*Forbes* article by Jesse Damiani. October 29, 2019.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jessedamiani/2019/10/29/new-research-reveals-facial-recognition-software-misclassifies-transgender-non-binary-people/>

[P6]

**CU Boulder research shows facial recognition failures beyond traditional gender norms.**

*Daily Camera* article by Lucy Haggard. October 21, 2019.

<https://www.dailycamera.com/2019/10/19/cu-boulder-research-shows-facial-recognition-failures-beyond-traditional-gender-norms/>

**Facial recognition AI can't identify trans and non-binary people.**

- [P5] *Quartz* article by Amrita Khalid. October 16, 2019.  
<https://qz.com/1726806/facial-recognition-ai-from-amazon-microsoft-and-ibm-misidentifies-trans-and-non-binary-people/>

**Facial recognition software has a gender problem.**

- [P4] *CU Boulder Today* article by Lisa Marshall. October 8, 2019.  
<https://www.colorado.edu/today/2019/10/08/facial-recognition-software-has-gender-problem>

**Amazon's Facial Analysis Program Is Building A Dystopic Future For Trans And Nonbinary People**

- [P3] *Jezebel* article by Anna Merlan and Dhruv Mehrotra. June 27, 2019.  
<https://jezebel.com/amazons-facial-analysis-program-is-building-a-dystopic-1835075450>

**AI researchers tell Amazon to stop selling 'flawed' facial recognition to the police**

- [P3] *The Verge* article by James Vincent. April 3, 2019.  
<https://www.theverge.com/2019/4/3/18291995/amazon-facial-recognition-technology-rekognition-police-ai-researchers-ban-flawed>

**AI experts are calling on Amazon to stop selling facial recognition to law enforcement**

- [P2] *Quartz* article by Dave Gershgorin. April 3, 2019.  
<https://qz.com/1586544/ai-experts-want-amazon-to-stop-selling-facial-recognition-to-law-enforcement/>

**7 problems with Trump's "American AI" Initiative**

- [P1] *Fast Company* article by Katharine Schwab. February 12, 2019.  
<https://www.fastcompany.com/90305421/7-problems-with-trumps-american-ai-initiative>

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## ***Talks***

### **Invited Talks and Panels**

- AUG 2020 "How Computers See Gender." Invited Speaker. Stanford's HCI Speaker Series.
- DEC 2019 Queer in AI. Invited Panelist. NeurIPS 2019. Vancouver, Canada.
- NOV 2019 Diversity & Inclusion Panel. Invited Panelist. CSCW 2019. Austin, TX.
- JULY 2019 "Gender Affirmation in Capital 'D' Design: Research Methods & Design Approaches for Trans & Non-Binary Inclusion." Invited Speaker. Pride@Research Lunch and Learn Series. Facebook, 2019. Menlo Park, CA.
- JUNE 2019 "Implications of Gendered Infrastructures in Computer Vision." Invited Speaker. Workshop on Fairness Accountability Transparency and Ethics in Computer Vision. CVPR, 2019. Long Beach, CA.

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## ***Community Organizing***

### **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS & PANELS**

MAY 2020 Michael A. DeVito, Ashley Marie Walker, Caitlin Lustig, Amy J. Ko, Katta Spiel, Alex A. Ahmed, Kimberley Allison, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Brianna Dym, Jed R. Brubaker, Ellen Simpson, Naveen Bagalkot, Noopur Raval, Michael Muller, Jennifer Rode, and Mary L. Gray.  
**Queer in HCI: Supporting LGBTQIA+ Researchers and Research Across Domains.** Special Interest Group convened as part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI. Honolulu, Hawaii.

## WORKSHOPS

NOV 2018 CSCW 2018. Jersey City, New Jersey. Informal workshop on developing gender inclusive guidelines for conducting HCI and social computing research.

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## Service

### Academic and Professional Service

FEB 2020—MAY 2020 **Queer in AI at CHI 2020**  
 Volunteer Organizer & Travel Grant Issuer

FEB 2020 **Information Science Prospective Student Visit Weekend**  
 Lead Organizer

2019 – PRESENT **SIGCHI Inclusion Team Leader for Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation**

2019 – PRESENT **Information Science Graduate Student Association**  
 Vice President

2018-2019 **McNair Scholar Mentorship Program (CU Boulder)**  
 Graduate Mentor  
 Mentors one undergraduate student in the McNair Scholars Program (serving first generation college students) for the 2018-2019 academic year

JAN 2018 – MAY 2018 **University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)**  
 Organizing Committee for Department Fika (Coffee Hour)  
 Human-Centered Computing Department

FEB 2017 **Gadgets & Gears Day** — Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD  
 Exhibitor for UMBC's PAD (Prototyping and Design) Lab

OCT 2017 **ASSETS 2017** — Baltimore, MD  
 Student Volunteer & Halloween Committee (Special Events) Member ACM SIGACCESS  
 Conference on Computers and Accessibility

### Reviewing

(\* indicates Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews)

2020 CSCW\*, CHI\*

2019 CHI, alt.chi, CHI LBW, DIS, CSCW\*

2017

CHI

**Affiliations**

2017 - PRESENT

ACM Student Membership